

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD AND BABBITT TO TOUR SAND DUNES ON DECEMBER 18 VISIT BEGINNING OF PUSH FOR NATIONAL PARK STATUS

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) announced today U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt will visit the Great Sand Dunes National Monument on Saturday, December 18. Allard and Babbitt will participate in a sunrise hike at the monument and conduct a public briefing to discuss their efforts to make the Sand Dunes a national park.

“I am very pleased Secretary Babbitt is coming to the San Luis Valley to visit the Sand Dunes,” Allard said. “Although Secretary Babbitt and I have had our differences, making the San Dunes a national park is something on which we are in agreement.”

Allard, who has been working with citizens and elected officials from the San Luis Valley on a legislation to make the Sand Dunes a national park since last summer, said Secretary Babbitt’s visit is very important.

“In order to make this happen, we are going to need the Administration’s full support,” added Allard. “Secretary Babbitt’s visit will send an important message to Congress that the Administration is behind this move and they are willing to make it a priority.”

Allard also said that he plans to introduce legislation in the Senate early next year that will give national park status to the Sand Dunes. Colorado Third District Representative Scott McInnis has said he will introduce similar legislation in the House.

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